

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10
PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-06 DODE-00 /120 W
-----290641Z 090615 /10

R 281440Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8582
INFO USERDA HQ WASHDC
USERDA HQ GERMANTOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L IAEA VIENNA 0694

PASS IO/SCT

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: AORG, IAEA, PARM
SUBJECT: PROPOSAL TO EXPAND IAEA BOARD MEMBERSHIP

REF: A) STATE 017326, B) IAEA VIENNA 536

SUMMARY: I HAVE LEARNED THAT PROPOSAL FOR REVISION
OF ARTICLE VI OF IAEA STATUTE CALLS SPECIFICALLY
FOR ADDITIONAL OF TWO BOARD SEATS FOR MESA REGION
AND THREE FOR AFRICAN REGION S WELL AS FOR ELIMINA-
TION OF BAR ON SERVING CONSECUTIVE TERMS IN SAME
CATEGORY OF ELECTIVE BOARD MEMBERSHIP. EARLY
REACTIONS FROM A NUMBER OF LOCAL MISSIONS ARE UN-
ENTHUSIASTIC. END SUMMARY.

1. I APPRECIATE TIMELY GUIDANCE CONTAINED REF A
WHICH WAS VERY USEFUL IN MY TALK WITH PAKISTANI
AMBASSADOR (SATTAR) WHO CALLED ON ME 1/26 TO PROVIDE
ME WITH DRAFT OF "EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM"
CONCERNING PROPOSAL TO AMEND ARTICLE VI. A.2 OF
STATUTE.

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2. MEMORANDUM ASSERTS THAT PRESENT DEGREE OF
REPRESENTATION FOR MESA AND AFRICAN AREAS
"IS NOT CONSISTENT WITH PRINCIPLES OF SOVERIGN
EQUALITY OF ALL MEMBERS AND THEIR EQUITABLE REPRE-
SENTATION ON THE BOARD" AND, TO CORRECT THIS, PROPOSES
THAT ARTICLE VI. A.2 BE AMENDED TO PROVIDE FOR AN

ADDITIONAL THREE (3) SEATS FOR AFRICA AND TWO (2) FOR MESA. SECOND (AND APPARENTLY UNRELATED) PROPOSAL CONTAINED IN MEMORANDUM IS ELIMINATION OF THE BAR ON RE-ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO BOARD IN SAME CATEGORY. FULL TEXT OF MEMORANDUM TRANSMITTED

SEPTTEL.

3. IN HIS PRESENTATION, AMB. SATTAR DWELT AT SOME LENGTH ON "INEQUITIES" OF GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION ON BOARD, PARTICULARLY AFFECTING MESA REGION. HE NOTED THAT NOT A SINGLE MEMBER OF

MIDDLE EAST PORTION OF THAT REGION WAS REPRESENTED ON PRESENT BOARD. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT PROPOSAL, WHICH HAD SUPPORT OF ALL VIENNA MISSIONS OF AFRICAN AND MESA MEMBER STATES, DID NOT RPT NOT ADDRESS DESIGNATED CATEGORY BUT ONLY ELECTIVE SEATS, AND DID NOT CONTEMPLATE A RE-DISTRIBUTION OF EXISTING SEATS BUT ADDITION OF "ONLY" FIVE TO PRESENT NUMBER. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUERY, SATTAR FLATLY DENIED THAT SOUTH AFRICAN BOARD MEMBERSHIP WAS INVOLVED IN ANY WAY IN THE PROPOSAL.

4. IN ACCORDANCE SUGGESTIONS CONTAINED PARA 2 REF A, I UNDERTOOK TO STUDY PROPOSAL CAREFULLY AND TRANSMIT IT TO DEPARTMENT, BUT NOTED CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT STATUTE REVISION WAS LABORIOUS PROCESS WHICH SHOULD NOT BE REOPENED UNLESS THERE WAS A CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED NEED, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF RELATIVELY SHORT TIME WHICH HAD ELAPSED SINCE PRESENT REVISION ARTICLE VI HAD COME INTO FORCE. I ALSO NOTED OUR CONCERN THAT FURTHER GROWTH IN SIZE OF THE BOARD MIGHT WEAKEN ITS EFFICIENCY AND THEREBY THE EFFICIENCY OF THE AGENCY ITSELF.

5. IN SUBSEQUENT REMARK, SATTAR MADE IT CLEAR THAT CO-SPONSORS ENVISAGE PROCEDURAL STEP, PROBABLY CREATION OF A SPECIAL BOARD COMMITTEE, DEVELOPING FROM BOARD DISCUSSION IN FEBRUARY. COMMITTEE WOULD, HE NOTED, REPORT TO JUNE BOARD AND BOARD'S "OBSERVATIONS" WOULD BE TRANSMITTED TO SEPTEMBER GENERAL CONFERENCE FOR ITS CONSIDERATION.

6. MISSION HAS OBTAINED INITIAL REACTIONS OF LOCAL REPS OF CANADA, UK AND USSR- ALL OF THEM NEGATIVE TOWARD STATUTE REVISION PROPOSAL FOR

REASONS WE ALSO SHARE. AMBASSADOR EROFEEV (USSR) TOLD ME HE HAD INFORMED NIGERIAN AMB. ADENIJI THAT ADEQUATE REPRESENTATION OF MEMBER STATES IN ELECTIVE CATEGORY IS ALREADY SERVED BY PROCESS OF ROTATION WITHIN AREA. WE ARE CONTINUING TO CONSULT WITH OTHER MISSIONS AND WILL REPORT FURTHER REACTIONS.

7. AS DEPARTMENT CORRECTLY ASSUMES, IT IS NOT RPT NOT POSSIBLE KEEP THIS ITEM OF THE AGENDA NOR WOULD IT APPEAR FEASIBLE TO PREVENT SUBJECT FROM BEING INCLUDED, ULTIMATELY, ON AGENDA FOR GENERAL CONFERENCE WHICH IS ONLY AGENCY BODY CAPABLE OF DETERMINING OUTCOME OF PROPOSALS FOR STATUTE REVISION (EVEN A UNANIMOUS BOARD RECOMMENDATION AGAINST IT WOULD HAVE LITTLE EFFECT ON THE GC). AT THIS STAGE, IT APPEARS THAT OUR BEST BET WOULD BE TO JOIN WITH OTHER RESPONSIBLE BOARD MEMBERS
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IN ATTEMPT TO LIMIT DAMAGE TO AN ABSOLUTE MINIMUM. NOTE THAT PROPOSAL TO ELIMINATE PROHIBITION OF CONSECUTIVE ELECTION IN SAME CATEGORY, WHICH IS OBVIOUSLY DESIGNED TO SUIT PAKISTAN'S INTERESTS SHOULD BE VERY CLOSELY QUESTIONED AT THE OUTSET AS NOT IN INTEREST OF GREATER AREA REPRESENTATION.

8. SATTAR ADVISED ME THAT NIGERIAN AMB. (ADENIJI) WILL BE CONTACTING ME SOON REGARDING THIS PROPOSAL "AND OTHER MATTERS". WILL KEEP DEPARTMENT INFORMED. STONE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, MEMBERSHIP, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977IAEAV00694
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770032-0705
Format: TEL
From: IAEA VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977019/aaaaahqc.tel
Line Count: 150
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c6f4e4dd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 17326, 77 IAEA VIENNA 536
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3678908
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSAL TO EXPAND IAEA BOARD MEMBERSHIP
TAGS: AORG, PARM, IAEA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c6f4e4dd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009